

**REMARKS**

Claims 14-20 and 24-26 are pending. Reconsideration is requested.

Applicants appreciate the Examiner's indication that claims 15-20, 25 and 26 are allowed.

The Examiner required that a Sequence Listing be filed including the sequences in Figures 8 and 12, and that the specification be amended as necessary to include sequence identifiers. A new Sequence Listing in paper and computer readable form is filed herewith, and the specification has been amended to include sequence identifiers. The paper and computer readable versions of the Sequence Listing are identical and contain no new matter.

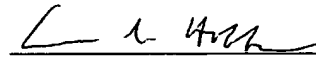
Claims 14 and 24 were rejected under U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph, because the specification, while being enabling for a compound having the formula aep PNA II as set forth in claim 14 wherein the compound is a peptide nucleic acid (PNA) and a pharmaceutical composition comprising the compound, allegedly does not reasonably provide enablement for the compound having the formula aep PNA II wherein the compound does not comprise a nucleobase (i.e., wherein the molecule is not a PNA).

Claim 14 has been amended to exclude compounds wherein B = H, HO, NH<sub>2</sub> or reporter ligands, and thus does not comprise basic sites in aeb PNA II. Amended claim 14 is directed to a compound having formula aep PNA II, a valid peptide nucleic acid, as it comprises nucleobases. Similarly, claim 24, which depends from claim 14, is so limited. It is respectfully submitted that both claim 14 and claim 24 are free of the rejection. Reconsideration and withdrawal thereof are respectfully requested.

All objections and rejections having been addressed, it is respectfully submitted that this application is in condition for allowance, and Notice to that effect is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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